

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 OPIC-06 INRE-00 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8234

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 2161

STATE ALSO PASS COMMERCE, DEFENSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO; EWWT; MMOL; ES

SUBJECT: GOES REQUEST FOR HELP: EMERGENCY WARHOUSING/STORAGE

1. JORGE ROCHAC, GENERAL MANAGER OF SALVADORAN PORT AUTHORITY(CEPA) CALLED EMBOFF 2 MAY WITH URGENT REQUEST FOR HELP TO RESOLVE A PENDING MAJOR WAREHOUSING/STORAGE PROBLEM.

2. EL SALVADOR RECENTLY RECEIVED A UN LOAN FOR THE PURCHASE OF FERTILIZERS. PRICES DROPPED AND EL SALVADOR WILL BE RECEIVING MUCH MORE BY QUANTITY THAN EXPECTED. THERE ARE NOW 5,000 METRIC TONS OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE IN BULK ABOARD A FREIGHTER ANCHORED IN ACAJUTLA. AN ADDED 15,000 METRIC TONS ARE ENROUTE. THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO WAREHOUSING SPACE AVAILABLE. THE RAINY SEASON HAS BEGUN AND AMMONIUM SULPHATE, BEING SUBJECT TO HYDROTROPY, MUST BE PROTECTED. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO BAG AND PALLETIZE FERTILIZER AS IT IS OFFLOADED.

3. CEPA WISHES TO OBTAIN IMMEDIATELY STORAGE FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR 3 TO 6 MONTHS. REQUIRED CAPACITY IS ESTIMATED AT 160,000 CUBIC METERS OF 4 CUBIC METER 500 KILO PALLETS. CEPA IS PREPARED TO LEASE A CARGO VESSEL IF AVAILABLE AND CAN PROVIDE TUG SERVICE IMMEDIATELY FROM ANY WEST COAST U.S. PORT. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY WOULD BE A READILY MOUNTABLE PRE-FABRICATED WAREHOUSE

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OR, PERHAPS MORE READILY AVAILABLE, A LARGE, ALMOST THREE RING

CIRCUS TYPE TENT OR A SERIES OF SMALLER ALL-WEATHER MILITARY TENTS. CEPA CAN ARRANGE FOR SHIPPING BY DC-3 OR EQUIVALENT OF AEREOTRANSPORTABLE ITEMS.

4. ALTHOUGH CEPA WOULD WELCOME USG GRANT ASSISTANCE OR OTHER LOW COST SOLUTIONS, IT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT A READILY AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL SOLUTION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE VERIFY SOONEST AVAILABILITY OF SHIP FOR LEASE, PREFAB WAREHOUSING OF SUFFICIENT SIZE OR, MORE LIKELY, TENTS WHICH CAN BE LEASED OR RENTED FOR 3-6 MONTHS, ABLE TO HOLD ABOUT 160,000 CUBIC METERS OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE.

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